

BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 6 JULY 2017 AT 7.30 PM

Present

Cllr R Feltwell - Chairman Mrs J Scott – Clerk Cllr N Moxey Cllr J Wheals
Cllr K Spicer Cllr C Goodwin Cllr P Cross

Also in attendance: District Councillor J Hinton, Tree Warden & Footpath Warden- 6 members of the public

Cllr Feltwell welcomed everyone to the meeting and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for Chairman. The Clerk received no notification of anyone planning to film or record.

1. **To record apologies for absence:** – Cllr A Graffham – Work, Cllr Bamford & Cllr K Hutchings - Holiday and County Councillor Gordon Jones.
2. **To receive Declaration of Interest relating to Agenda items:** Cllr Feltwell declared an interest in decision re Woodfield in the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting.
3. **Dispensations – to consider written requests for dispensation of disclosable pecuniary interest in matters relating to Agenda items** – None received
4. **To approve minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 1 June 2017** – The minutes were approved as a true record and duly signed.

Proposed Cllr C Goodwin Seconded Cllr J Wheals All in favour CU

5. **Matters Arising from the minutes: Page 867 item 5** – Cllrs Cross & Moxey have undertaken training on remote microphones for the loop - e-mail from resident re traffic calming had been sent to County Councillors Jones. **Page 868 item 9** Notice to be sent to Bentley Bugle re links to Babergh & Mid Suffolk Council's planning pages to inform residents. Rest is covered by agenda items.

Cllr Moxey wished it to be recorded that the sound system provided by the Village Hall is not suitable for purpose based on a trial this evening. Clerk to inform Mr Blackmore.

Action: Clerk to contact J Blackmore – send notice to Bentley Bugle

6. **To approve Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on Friday 30 June 2017** – The minutes were approved as a true record and duly signed.
7. **Matters Arising from the minutes -** Accounts year ended 2016/17 have been sent to BDO for audit.

Public Session

District Councillor Hinton - Read to a written report – **Appendix 1** in the minute book and on the Council website. He said that planning seems to be the predominant concern of the Council – applications are being brought forward at an alarming rate considering that a lot of them have been on hold for 6 months or so due to the JR decision in East Bergholt. Plans for a 10% growth across the District in the new proposed Local Plan against ours at 0.3% there is still a lot of confusion and room for legal challenges. The move to Endeavour House is still going ahead. There is a meeting with Highways England concerning the A12 junctions. Cllr Hinton concluded his report by saying that challenges still exist but he hoped they were making some slow progress to a logical and desirable conclusion. District Councillor Hinton thought that loss of 13 Councillors re Boundary re-division was a retrograde step – where they get their figures from is a mystery!! Until they have a census they don't know who is here.

County Councillor Jones- Had sent in a written report **Appendix 2** in the minute book and on the Council website – which had been forwarded to Councillors.

District Councillor Hinton informed the meeting that the planning application for 16 houses in Bentley had been passed.

Footpath Warden – was concerned about hedges encroaching the footpaths – the Clerk is to put a notice in the Bugle reminding residents to keep hedges trimmed in width and height. He also asked permission to cut and prune the area near the War Memorial. He was reminded to let the Clerk know when this was planned for insurance purposes.

The entrance drive between the Chestnuts and The Corral needs to be cut – this is SCC land and the Clerk will contact them.

Action: Contact SCC re hedge cutting

8. Planning Applications

- a) To note decisions of Planning Authority on previous applications - Non received
- b) To give comments on any new applications in hand – None received

9. **Report by Exception – Tree Warden/Footpath Warden – Tree Warden** -Read to a written report – **Appendix 3** in the minute book. He reported a large branch broken on a large Ash tree just outside the rear garden of 28 West Mill Green – it is hanging and only supported by the fence of the property. The tree stands on SCC land and is too dangerous for the property owners to remove. The Clerk was asked to contact SCC to have this removed and the area cleared so they can gain access to their fence. **Capel Library:** Mr Hawes reported that FoCL now have 180 members – the 100 Club has 85. Suffolk Libraries AGM is at Wherstead Park on 28 September. There is a Lego Club which has had two sessions to date and was well attended (42 & 21 respectively). Ali & Catherine are to run ½ Marathon again later in the year – a just giving page has been set up. A gazebo is to be purchased and the Film Lion shown on 20 June was well received 74 attended. The next film on 18 July is Hacksaw Ridge. Capel Fun Day went well it was a lovely day enjoyed by all. **Bentley Long Barn** – Nothing to report. **Footpath Warden -** Nothing to report at the moment. There is a walk to Belstead this Saturday 6 pm start. The meeting was informed that a resident had been cutting the footpath from Church Road to Potash Lane through to the Case is Altered - Clerk to send a letter of thanks.

Action: Clerk to contact SCC re dangerous Ash tree branch – send letter of thanks to resident

10. **To discuss letter from Bentley CEVCP School re request for funding** Following a lengthy discussion it was proposed that the Clerk reply to the School informing them that the Parish Council has very limited resources available and there are other sources of funding to be tried first . They should approach Babergh regarding CIL and the 123 List.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey Seconded Cllr K Spicer All in favour CU

Action: Clerk to write to School

11. **Post Box – Update** .The Chairman had written to the Royal Mail CEO and received an apology for the delay – apparently Shotley are experiencing a similar problem – Clerk to contact James Cartledge.

12. **To discuss Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Babergh Warding Arrangements** - Following a lengthy discussion it was proposed that a letter be sent to the Boundary Commission asking if representation within the area of Bentley will be affected. Also clarification of Bentley Parish and Dodnash Ward boundaries and representation within these boundaries.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey Seconded Cllr P Cross All in favour CU

13. **Traffic Calming – Signage – Play Area – Update** - The Clerk had contacted Tattingtone Clerk re their VAS - the one on the main A137 has been in place for years. The one on Church Road flashes 30 no matter what speed you are going and just appeared one day - it had not been requested and they have never been charged for it. Speedwatch Co-ordinator rang this evening and SID is dead!!!! So we need to look for alternatives - hopefully permanent ones (really need two each side of the village would like a permanent one that works from mains or solar panel – Stutton is in the process of purchasing one but it takes two car batteries and will be heavy – We will wait until Stutton have got theirs and then re-assess.
14. **Babergh Alliance of Town & Parish Councils** -. Councillors felt that the draft Constitution was a reasonable document and recommended that we say yes for comment.
Proposed Cllr N Moxey Seconded Cllr K Spicer All in favour CU
15. **Affordable Housing – Report on progress – Update** – Hastoe are to go ahead and approach landowners and will update Parish Council on their findings.
16. **Playing Fields Society – Permission given for Parking on Playing Field for School Fete**
- The Clerk reported that she had given Bentley CEVC Primary School permission to park on the Playing Field for the School Fete. A letter had been sent to Capel Under 11’s manager re hiring the field for training. Date of next meeting 7 September 2017.
17. **To receive Correspondence** – The Clerk drew Councillors’ attention to the following E-mail letter of thanks from Friends of Capel Library – Letter from Boundary Commission – re Electoral Review of Babergh Warding Arrangements & a slide & Briefing pack for Phase 2 of the Boundary review for Babergh from Babergh & Mid Suffolk Councils – letter from Bentley CEVCP School re donation – e-mail re Babergh & Mid Suffolk Councils Planning Teams pre application Service – e-mails from Network Assurance re works in Capel Road – e-mail re funding to help Team GB aspirant compete in Dubai Unfortunately s.137 donations can only be made to benefit the area or the inhabitants, or a group of them. It cannot be used for the benefit of an individual. - e-mail Babergh East Police & Parish Forum Meeting at Chelmondiston on 5 July **Late Correspondence** E-mail from Chairman & reply from Royal Mail re Provision of Village Post Box and e-mail reply from UK Power Network re query on Temporary traffic orders in Capel Road.
18. **Exchange of information by Councillors and matters for consideration at future Meetings**
– None
19. **To Authorise Payments** - The following payments were authorised
- | | | | | |
|--------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|---------|
| 101244 | Bentley Village Hall | Hall Hire April/May/June | | £70.00 |
| 101245 | SALC | Annual Audit | | £210.00 |
| 101246 | P Baldwin | 3rd cut grass | | £110.00 |
| 101247 | Mrs J Scott | Salary June | £474.24 | £530.59 |
| | | Minus tax | <u>Nil</u> | |
| | | | £474.24 | |
| | | Plus Expense | <u>£ 56.35</u> | |
| | | | | £530.59 |
- It was proposed that these be paid en bloc.
- Proposed: Cllr N Moxey Seconded: Cllr J Wheals All in favour CU
20. **To confirm date of next scheduled meeting** – Parish Council Meeting Thursday 6 July 2017 at 7.30 pm. Preceded by Playing Field Society Meeting 7.00pm.

21. **To consider the exclusion of the public & press in the public interest for consideration of item 22 - It** was proposed that the remaining members of the public be asked to leave.

Proposed Cllr B Feltwell Seconded Cllr C Goodwin All in favour CU

22. **To discuss Clerk's salary – NALC Pay Scales 2017/18 -** It was proposed that the recommended NALC pay scale be applied to the Clerk's salary.

Proposed Cllr Seconded Cllr All in favour CU

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE:

DRAFT